CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1.   A method for managing application files within a
data processing system, the method comprising:
        registering an alias name, wherein the alias name
represents a first compound name that includes an
10   application name that is associated with an application
and a deployment name that is associated with a
deployment attribute that characterizes a deployment of
an instance of the application;
        generating an application-based name associated with
15   an application, wherein the application-based name
represents a context within a naming system, and wherein
the application-based name is a second compound name that
includes the alias name; and
        managing an application within the data processing
20   system using the application-based name.

2.   The method of claim 1 wherein a deployment attribute
is a metadata value that characterizes a manner in which
the instance of the application is deployed within the
25   distributed data processing system.

3.   The method of claim 1 wherein the alias name
represents the application name and multiple deployment
names associated with multiple deployment attributes.

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4.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of registering the alias name further comprises:

associating the alias name with the first compound name that includes the application name and the

5   deployment name; and

storing the association of the alias name with the first compound name in a datastore.

5.   The method of claim 4 further comprising:

10   associating the first compound name with a first topology-based name, wherein the first topology-based name represents a first context for organizing files that are related to the instance of the application.

15   6.   The method of claim 4 further comprising:

moving files that are related to the instance of the application; and

associating the first compound name with a second topology-based name, wherein the second topology-based

20   name represents a second context for organizing files that are related to the instance of the application.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

installing multiple versions of the application in

25   the data processing system; and

registering an alias name for each version of the application.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

installing multiple instances of the application in the data processing system; and

registering an alias name for each instance of the

5   application.

9. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing application files within a data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

    means for registering an alias name, wherein the alias name represents a first compound name that includes an application name that is associated with an application and a deployment name that is associated with a deployment attribute that characterizes a deployment of an instance of the application;

    means for generating an application-based name associated with an application, wherein the application-based name represents a context within a naming system, and wherein the application-based name is a second compound name that includes the alias name; and

    means for managing an application within the data processing system using the application-based name.

10. The computer program product of claim 9 wherein a deployment attribute is a metadata value that characterizes a manner in which the instance of the application is deployed within the distributed data processing system.

11. The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the alias name represents the application name and multiple deployment names associated with multiple deployment attributes.

12. The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the means for registering the alias name further comprises:

     means for associating the alias name with the first compound name that includes the application name and the

5 deployment name; and

     means for storing the association of the alias name with the first compound name in a datastore.

13. The computer program product of claim 12 further

10 comprising:

     means for associating the first compound name with a first topology-based name, wherein the first topology-based name represents a first context for organizing files that are related to the instance of the

15 application.

14. The computer program product of claim 12 further comprising:

     means for moving files that are related to the

20 instance of the application; and

     means for associating the first compound name with a second topology-based name, wherein the second topology-based name represents a second context for organizing files that are related to the instance of the

25 application.

15. The computer program product of claim 9 further comprising:

means for installing multiple versions of the application in the data processing system; and

5   means for registering an alias name for each version of the application.

16. The computer program product of claim 9 further comprising:

10   means for installing multiple instances of the application in the data processing system; and

means for registering an alias name for each instance of the application.

17. An apparatus for managing application files within a
data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

　　　means for registering an alias name, wherein the
alias name represents a first compound name that includes
an application name that is associated with an
application and a deployment name that is associated with
a deployment attribute that characterizes a deployment of
an instance of the application;

　　　means for generating an application-based name
associated with an application, wherein the
application-based name represents a context within a
naming system, and wherein the application-based name is
a second compound name that includes the alias name; and

　　　means for managing an application within the data
processing system using the application-based name.

18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein a deployment
attribute is a metadata value that characterizes a manner
in which the instance of the application is deployed
within the distributed data processing system.

19. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the alias name
represents the application name and multiple deployment
names associated with multiple deployment attributes.

20. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the means for registering the alias name further comprises:

 means for associating the alias name with the first compound name that includes the application name and the deployment name; and

 means for storing the association of the alias name with the first compound name in a datastore.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising:

 means for associating the first compound name with a first topology-based name, wherein the first topology-based name represents a first context for organizing files that are related to the instance of the application.

22. The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising:

 means for moving files that are related to the instance of the application; and

 means for associating the first compound name with a second topology-based name, wherein the second topology-based name represents a second context for organizing files that are related to the instance of the application.

23. The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:

 means for installing multiple versions of the application in the data processing system; and

 means for registering an alias name for each version of the application.

24. The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:

    means for installing multiple instances of the application in the data processing system; and

    means for registering an alias name for each

5 instance of the application.